end to the negociation for the Abbey Wood Estate, and to report to the Treasury whether or not it was possible to terminate also the proceedings for the acquisition of the Nunhead and Brompton Cemeteries. The Board of Health replied, that they had directed their solicitor, Mr. Ellis, to take the necessary measures to end the negotiation for the purchase of the land at Erith, and to report the state of the proceedings as to the two cemeteries; and here the accessible Minutes end, leaving the burial question, which so much concerns the public health, in a distressingly unsatisfactory condition.

We will make but one more reference to the Minutes, and then pass on to the result of the arbitrations. Under the date, Sept. 30, we find the following entry:—

"Read, a letter from Dr. Emil Braun, offering to establish an office in London for the deposit and preparation of monumental decorations adapted to the use of the cemeteries of the Board, in consideration of the Board agreeing to recognize such an office as the only one specially charged by them with the business of providing the monumental embellishments in question.

Ordered, that the assistant secretary send a letter to Dr. Braun, stating that they are disposed to regard Dr. Braun's suggestions with favour, but that they are not sufficiently advanced in their preliminary arrangements to be able to give a positive answer upon so important a subject, especially in the absence of some of the members of the Board; that, according to their present impression, some such arrangement as that proposed by Dr. Braun is not only feasible but highly desirable, and that they will not fail to keep in view Dr. Braun's suggestions until the proper time shall come for examining them more closely."

We quote this that we may express a hope that the Board, when they again have to consider these matters, will not allow themselves to be led into any such arrangement.

Now, as to the purchase of the Brompton and Nunhead Cemeteries. The proceedings have been pending some time chiefly in sittings before the arbitrators, Mr. Rawlinson, the engineer in behalf of the General Board of Health; and Mr. Alderman Farebrother, on behalf of the Nunhead Cemetery Company; and Mr. Hardwick, the architect, on behalf of the company owning the Brompton Cemetery. Mr. B. Peacock, Q.C., acted as umpire in both cases. The case in behalf of the General Board of Health was conducted by Sir F. Thesiger, that in behalf of the Nunhead Cemetery Company by Mr. Crowder, and that in behalf of the Brompton Company by Sir Fitzroy Kelly.

Mr. J. W. Higgins and Mr. G. Godwin were engaged as surveyors by the Board of Health in addition to their own officers, Mr. H. Austin, Mr. Cresy, and others. Sir Joseph Paxton, Dr. Sutherland, Mr. Holland, and other medical men were also in attendance on the same side, but Sir Frederick Thesiger called no witnesses, but rested his case on the evidence elicited in the course of the cross-examination, that the companies, though established many years, paid even now only small dividends; and maintained that the real test of the value of the works proposed to be taken, and the compensation to be given, was not what they had cost, but what they would sell for in the market; in short, the sale price of the shares up to the time when it was proposed to discontinue the practice of intramural interment, and before the Act was passed.

Mr. Bunning, Mr. Lee, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Hammond, and others were called on the part of the companies. The sum claimed by the Nunhead Cemetery Company was 91,000*l.*, and by the Brompton Company about 135,000*l.*, as nearly as we could collect from the evidence. This sum in the latter case was made up of the total amounts expended (stated at 93,177*l.*). Interest at 4 per cent. on this from the time of expenditure (deducting moneys received during the period), 10 per cent. on the 93,177*l.* for forced sale and a certain sum for expenses incurred in "establishing the business."

The umpire has awarded as compensation for the Brompton Cemetery, 74,921*l.* 14*s.*; for the Nunhead Cemetery, 42,153*l.* 13*s.* The award would seem to be made on the principle that it is not the amount which may have been expended, whether wastefully or otherwise, which is to form a basis for compensation, but the actual worth of the property, as shown by the dividend and the prices of shares at the time.

A respectable provincial paper (the *Bridgewater Times*) speaks of this award as "a gross iniquitous job which the Government is perpetrating," "an immoral transaction," "a gross outrage of common honesty," and "a gross tyranny upon the rights and property of her Majesty's subjects." This, however, it will be seen, is altogether erroneous and foolish. The Government have nothing whatever to do with it. The award is the act of the arbitrator, and the arbitrator was appointed by the two parties jointly, and made by them a judge in equity. Whether he is right or wrong in his decision is another matter, and one into which we do not intend here to enter. Our object in the present article has been to make the public acquainted, in brief, with the proceedings of the Board, and to let them know the small progress made up to this time in the much-called-for reform of our deadly grave-yard system, to the evils of which unfortunately men of all classes seem wilfully to shut their eyes, excepting when some unusual disease is afflicting the land. The thousands who die annually, here and there, before their time, do not make noise enough to rouse them. Something must forthwith be done: while departments squabble the evil grows.

Here we have an important Act brought in by the Government, in compliance with the demands of the people, and passed by the largest majorities of the session, rendered nugatory by the want of co-operation, on the part of other governing bodies, with the special agency created to see it carried out. There would seem to be a desire in several departments of the Government to thwart in detail measures which the Government, as a whole, takes credit for. "Such a course," as Lord Ebrington said in his speech last session, on the Metropolitan Sewers' Bill, "is neither consistent, nor creditable, nor satisfactory; and the sooner a distinct understanding is come to with them as to their real views and intentions with regard to sanitary subjects, the better it will be for all parties."

ST. PANCRAS ALMSHOUSES COMPETITION.—With reference to our notice of the drawings sent in, in competition for the St. Pancras Almshouses, we are informed that the committee decided on Friday last, Oct. 31, to adopt the design sent in by Mr. J. K. Colling.

ARCHITECTURUS TO HIS SON.

SEVEN OTHER LAMPS OF ARCHITECTURE.

My son, I am afraid lest you should despise your father because he is old: rather prefer to suspect yourself because you are young. When I was a boy my compeers and I held the old stagers of that day to be very weak in their ways, and not half so knowing in the world as we: some of us lived to think otherwise, and that without being ourselves old.

I know not how it is, but among all young men of my acquaintance the young architects appear to display by far the largest amount of self-confidence with anything rather than the largest amount of knowledge to support it. To go no further for an instance: my son himself, in the third year of his articles believes beyond a doubt that his skill in all important things is probably tenfold his father's. It reminds me of old times, my boy,—old times long ago, before I essayed to set the Thames on fire—and failed. But in my young days we had one advantage which you have not: there was none of a now universal system which inflates the young man's mind with conceit, tantalises him with delusive hopes, rids him of his money, misemploys his time, and does much other harm to all and very little good or none to any.

And now that I think again, no doubt in this very system, that of what is called "competition," an ingenious man might readily find the clue to the curious fact which I have mentioned—the large pretensions and small possessions of our rising generation. It is a singular a thing among the singular things of the world for the opportunity to be given to the youngest and least experienced, if he have the moral courage, to enter into open, public and recognised rivalry with the best and oldest of the day: it is a position so unique among the practical regulations of business, that one can readily look for important consequences and not feel surprised if they should be very important indeed. But if I think of it I may have more to say of this under the seventh lamp.

For there are seven lamps of architecture. There are seven great questions with the architect; seven departments in his subject; seven heads of his discourse with the world; seven things to look to; seven subjects for his thought; seven trees to eat of; seven books to read; seven paths to take in one; seven stars to guide his way; seven lamps, a short, or seven of anything else.

I do not disdain the seven lamps of another; but neither will I have another disdain mine. I call them lamps for a reason: a poet has coined the phrase, and in its dreamy application it has become fixed, as an index to some uncertain but important question, that there are in architecture seven great points—seven things of study—seven faculties in the architect—seven essentials in his art. If so, I say they are these:—

1. The lamp of Art;
2. The lamp of Delineation;
3. The lamp of Science;
4. The lamp of Building;
5. The lamp of Learning;
6. The lamp of Teaching;
7. The lamp of making a Living.

I mean to lay before your mind in brief manner, but if I can forcibly, the whole province of your mission, and these are its seven grand mysteries: perfect in all these, you are a perfect master. You have in the question of art that poetic fancy and power of beautiful design by which you claim to be an artist. In the question of Delineation you have that power of ready hand without which an architect is dumb. In the question of Science you have that knowledge and skill by which you construct with judgment. In the question of Building you have all the practical knowledge for the economics of your subject, the arrangement of your plan, the determination of your craft-works, and the supervision of your workmen. In the questions of Learning and Teaching you have the taking up and the laying down of your part in the procession of your art—a sacred trust in the brotherhood that you should leave the world better than you found it. And in the last question of

To learn how to use PDF Compression and OCR go to ThePaperlessOffice.org